

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Saturday, September 03, 2016 11:31 AM
To: HarborComments
Subject: The Willamette deserves a proper cleanup

Dear Administrator Gina McCarthy,

Please revise the cleanup plan for the Portland Harbor Superfund Site. Local residents and visitors (human and otherwise) need a clean and healthy river. The Willamette runs through the heart of Portland and is a home to wildlife including Ospreys, Bald Eagles, Otters, Great Blue Herons, many species of fish and more. At present it is unsafe for an adult to eat over eight ounces of fish per month from the Willamette River Superfund area. For pregnant or nursing women, no amount of this fish is considered safe. Better cleanup means greater safety. We need to focus on removing contaminated sediment and taking that sediment to an appropriate landfill.

Please make the following improvements:

1. Select Alternative G with additional dredging in areas of high human use, areas of high ecological value, and areas where there is high risk of recontamination of the river.
2. Set very clear timelines and metrics for success including an explicit date by which Portland Harbor specific fish consumption advisories will be lifted.
3. Select an alternative that allows all members of our community (including children and women of childbearing age) to eat fish safely from our river.
4. EPA's cleanup plan should include the heavily contaminated uplands as well as the heavily contaminated river.
5. EPA should do a thorough job of addressing environmental justice issues, including reviewing and correcting significant deficiencies in its public engagement strategies for future phases of the Superfund process. EPA should also lay out an approach which ensures the jobs, economic and other benefits associated with the Superfund process are shared with the community, particularly the underserved communities most heavily effected by contamination in Portland Harbor.
6. EPA should eliminate the confined disposal facility which would create a permanent toxic waste dump in our river.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

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Portland, OR 97280

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